

Lesson 92: Shogatsu/ Special Event in the New Year Time

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Jenny: Do you have any plans for New Year's Eve?

Junko: I have to go with my parents to the temple. We always watch the bell-ringing before midnight.

Jenny: Is that the temple near our school?

Junko: Yes, that's the one. I've been going there every 31st of December ever since I can remember.

Jenny: Interesting. What do you do after that?

Junko: We go home and eat "soba" noodles. It's traditionally eaten just before **the stroke of midnight**.

Jenny: You're so lucky to have that kind of tradition.

Junko: Why don't you join me for the bell-ringing and some "soba"? I'm sure my parents wouldn't mind if you tagged along.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. Most people around the world celebrate the start of the New Year at **the stroke of midnight**.
2. According to the fairy tale, Cinderella has to be home at **the stroke of midnight**.
3. At **the stroke of midnight**, fireworks lit up the dark sky.

* the stroke of midnight / 真夜中の鐘

3. Your Task

You are spending New Year's Day in another country. Your host family is curious about the Japanese traditional New Year celebration. Tell them (=your tutor) about how you celebrate New Year's Day in Japan.

4. Let's Talk

What makes New Year's Day celebration special?

How did you celebrate the last "shogatsu"?

What are the preparations done for the party?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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